



Communicable Disease Branch Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Weekly Key Points

May 19, 2020

The North Carolina Division of Public Health (NC DPH) Communicable Disease Branch will be releasing COVID-19 weekly key points that includes information discussed on the weekly Tuesday Local Health Department call. Recordings of the call will not be made available; please use the information below as a summary of the topics presented on the call. As guidance changes, please use the most recent information provided. For questions, contact the NC DPH Communicable Disease Branch 24/7 Epidemiologist on Call at **919-733-3419**.

Important updates

- **NEW/Update:** The [CD Manual](#) now includes the following:
 - [Farmworker Camp LHD Investigation Steps Related to COVID-19](#)
 - [Farmworker Camp Checklist for Initial Meeting Related to COVID-19 Employee Tracking](#)
 - Farmworker Camp Line List Template (excel)
 - Contact–Case Patient CCTO Software Import Template (excel)
- **New:** [Contact Tracing Training](#)
- **New:** [List of Testing Collection Sites](#)
- **New:** [Requesting Testing Supplies](#)
- **Update:** [Requesting PPE](#)

Upcoming Events

- **Wednesday, May 20th 5:30–6:30PM: DHHS COVID-19 Guidance for Dental Professionals: OSHA and CDC Recommendations and PPE Guidance**
AHEC will offer this free webinar on practice guidelines and PPE especially designed to support dental providers. Please share the call information with dental professionals in your jurisdictions.
Link to join Webinar <https://zoom.us/j/96006597065> [\[zoom.us\]](#)
Call in Options: (312) 626-6799 or (646) 558-8656
Webinar ID: 960 0659 7065

NC EDSS

NC DHHS uses data from multiple question packages in NC EDSS to monitor the pandemic. Please complete as much information as possible in the Case Interviews/Investigations section in the NC EDSS Risk History package.

Auto-closure of certain events will be implemented soon:

- Newly-imported negative labs will now auto-close at the time the event is created
- Events with negative labs imported prior to April 24 will auto-close in the next few days
- Confirmed cases will auto-close 60 days after the date reported to CDC to allow for continued updates from the local health department (LHD)

Several workflows have reached maximum capacity; this issue should be resolved in the coming days.



Outbreaks

A new section called 'COVID-19 Lab Information' has been added to the Outbreak Results package. Please complete all questions in this section. These fields are used to determine when an outbreak is over. An outbreak is over 28 days after the latest date of onset in a symptomatic person or the latest date of specimen collection in an asymptomatic person, whichever is later.

Contact Tracing

The [contact tracing training](#) is now available on the [NC AHEC website](#). Instructions on how to access it were sent out via email on Tuesday, May 19 to the NC Local Health Director and CD nurse listservs.

There is a new excel spreadsheet called **Contact – Case Patient CCTO Software Import Template (Excel)** available on the [CD Manual](#) to replace the previous contact tracing form spreadsheet.

- The spreadsheet should be used when there is a need to capture a large number of contacts or situations when hand entering the contacts into the CCTO is not possible.
- This form can be imported directly into the CCTO software to prevent having to do double data entry.
- Importing this spreadsheet will be covered in the CCTO software training for county staff designated with this responsibility.

Counties with surge staffing requests should email Community Care of North Carolina (CCNC) at: cctc-staffing@communitycarenc.org. Requests for staffing that may be needed a few weeks from now can be included. Questions regarding requesting staff should be directed to [Christina Page](#) or [Wendy Sause](#).

Testing Strategy

LHDs have been integral to North Carolina doubling its testing over the last month to meet the current goal of testing 5,000 to 7,000 North Carolinians each day. The state and federal governments are actively working to provide supplies. To support you at a state level, we have developed a process to fulfill requests for test kits, bulk swabs, and transport media:

- To request bulk supplies and test kits, please visit the [Requesting Specimen Testing Supplies](#) page on our website. You may also continue the current process of working with your local Emergency Management agency to submit a request; however, we prefer use of the new online form when possible.
- To request PPE, please visit the [Requesting PPE](#) page on our website.

NC DHHS has started posting [testing sites](#) on the website. LHDs can email covidtestingsites@dhhs.nc.gov to add new sites to the listing.

Remdesivir and Strategic National Stockpile Update

NC DHHS is receiving weekly allocated Remdesivir shipments from Amerisource Bergen at the state (Receipt, Stage, Store) RSS Warehouse. The allocated doses for the state are based upon COVID-19 data reported by our hospitals. The state is responsible to handle allocation and distribution once the product is received from Amerisource Bergen. We expect weekly shipments of Remdesivir into June.

Allocation will be done based upon hospital reported COVID-19 and Remdesivir data. The information reported will be reviewed to ensure the product is allocated appropriately. Currently, this medication is not available in the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS). Therefore, resource requests on behalf of hospitals for Remdesivir should not be entered into WebEOC. LHDs can contact Mandie Williford (amanda.b.williford@dhhs.nc.gov) for more information.